

KENDRICK PARK HOUSES

In 1925, when the Kendrick Trust was first conceived, the houses on the “island” between East Pleasant, North Pleasant and Triangle Streets were as listed below, proceeding from the southern end to the northern tip. Addresses given (#) are as of 1925. Plain addresses are North Pleasant Street addresses (houses facing west). An “E” following a number indicates an East Pleasant Street address (facing east), and a “T” following a number indicates a Triangle Street address (facing northeast):

#41 ~ Hutchinson House (c. 1872-73). The southernmost “point house.” Built in 1872-73 by harness and trunk store owner and fireman Charles E. Hutchinson. In 1925, it was a three unit tenement owned by H.B. Ketchum. ***Razed 1957.***

#45 ~ Henry House (c. 1872). Occupied in 1925 by Mary Henry (widow of George L. Henry) and her daughters, who worked for New England Telephone & Telegraph. ***Demolished November 1951.***

#49 ~ Fearing House (c. 1820?). A wooden Federal originally built prior to 1830 at what is now the corner of Fearing and North Pleasant Streets. In 1880, H.D. Fearing donated the building to the Baptist Church, which moved the house to this site to serve as a parsonage. Fearing was a local industrialist and member of the Amherst Ornamental Tree Association. He built a new house on his original house lot (corner of North Pleasant and Fearing), designed by famous architect Stanford White with landscape advice from Frederick Law Olmsted. In 1925, the former parsonage was occupied by Mary Dudley (widow of Amherst Box Co. employee James Dudley) and her daughters. ***Demolished 1995.***

#51 ~ Hyde House (c. 1875). In 1925, Samuel Hyde, an optician/jeweler, was living there. ***Demolished 1972 following flood damage.***

#53 ~ Chapin-Ward House (c. 1903). ***Last surviving residential building on the Kendrick Trust property.*** Named for the Chapin family for whom it was first built and the Ward family that last lived in it. This is one of two houses on the “island” designed by Leverett architect Roswell Field Putnam, who designed the North Amherst Library and numerous residences in the Valley. Both houses were built by George E. Bosworth, a contractor who also lived on the “island.” In 1925, the Chapin-Ward House was the home of William Chapin, Vice-President of the Amherst Savings Bank (where George Kendrick was President at the time). Living four houses north of the disreputable “point house,” Chapin may well have discussed it and the future park with George Kendrick. After Chapin’s death in 1940, the house was purchased by Charles W. Ward, assistant cashier for the First National Bank of Amherst. His family owned the house until March 2000. A barn/garage of the same period also survives.

#55 ~ Elijah Ayres House (c. 1875). In 1925, it was occupied by J.W. Hyde, a printer for the *Amherst Record*. ***Demolished 1990.***

#57 ~ Chapin-Smith House (c. 1893). The other house on the “island” designed for the Chapin family by architect Roswell Field Putnam. In 1925, it was occupied by Thomas W. Smith, Amherst’s Town Clerk, Treasurer and Collector. ***Moved to 183 East Pleasant Street in 1980.***

#12E ~ Dwight Palmer House (c. 1863). Palmer had been a trustee of the Amherst Savings Bank, helped bring public utilities (gas, water, electricity) to Amherst, was a Selectman, and was owner of the Palmer Block, whose destruction by fire during the blizzard of 1888 cleared a downtown lot for Amherst Town Hall. The Dwight Palmer House had later been the home of George E. Bosworth, who operated a carpentry/woodworking business out of an adjacent barn near the East Pleasant/Triangle Street intersection. In 1925, it was home to his son Edwin Bosworth, who was continuing the family business. George and Edwin Bosworth built many houses on Lincoln Avenue, as well as George and Matilda Kendrick’s house on Seeley Street, and the nearby Davenport Inn. ***Razed 1962.***

#61 ~ Bosworth House (c. 1913). The last house built on the “island,” constructed and occupied by contractor Edwin Bosworth. ***Moved to 140 Fearing Street in 1979.***

#44T & #46T ~ The two Towne Houses (c. 1770? & 1800?). Located on the northern tip of the “island,” both houses were built prior to 1833. One may have been the surviving colonial (cape?) home of Moses Bascomb, which appears on a 1770 map of Amherst. In 1833, the houses were occupied by a P. Holme and an S. Smith. In 1925, the family of Willis G. Towne, agent for the Amherst Co-operative Association and member of the finance committee of the Amherst Club (with George Kendrick), lived in both houses. ***Razed 1962.***